

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

I. Summary of the Non-final Office Action

Claims 1-5, 7-13 and 15-18 are pending in this application.

Claims 1-5, 7, 11-13 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Daniel (US 2004/0012557; “Daniel”) in view of Ishikawa et al. (US 6,261,247; “Ishikawa”).

Claims 8-10 and 16-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Daniel in view of Ishikawa, and in further view of Mohri (US 6,515,669; “Mohri”).

II. Summary of the Amendment

With this Amendment, Applicants amend claims 1 and 11, and add new claims 19 and 20. No new matter is added by these amendments.

Now claims 1-5, 7-13 and 15-20 are all the claims pending in this application.

Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are put in condition for allowance under the following analysis.

III. Analysis of the Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

One important feature of claim 1 is that the “finger-motion signal receiving unit” and “finger-motion signal receiving unit” are configured to be attached to a *user’s hand*, provide a *wireless power signal* to operate the claimed “finger-motion detecting unit” and “finger-motion signal transmitting unit”, and read the modulated finger-motion signal from the “finger-motion

signal transmitting unit” thereby overcoming inconvenience of conventional glove-type input devices.

By contrast, however, **Daniel** does not teach beyond a conventional glove-type device as exemplified in Fig. 1B of Applicants’ specification. As seen from the illustrated structure (Fig. 3 of **Daniel**), all the elements constituting the input device 100 of **Daniel** are wired to communicate with one another. Further, **Daniel** does not disclose how power is provided and which element provides the power to operate the transmitter/receiver 118 of Fig. 3 of **Daniel** which is alleged to correspond to the claimed “finger-motion signal transmitting unit”. On the other hand, the claimed apparatus is featured in that a wireless power signal is output by the “finger-motion signal receiving unit” to operate the “finger-motion detecting unit” and “finger-motion signal transmitting unit”.

In addition, it should be noted that **Ishikawa** simply discloses the use of wireless power signal transmission by magnetic coupling in an anatomical position sensing art, and more importantly, **Daniel** fails to teach how the power is provided and which element provides the power to operate its transmitter/receiver 118 of Fig. 3 as noted above. Therefore, even if one skilled in the art had looked to **Ishikawa**, it would not have been obvious to modify **Daniel** using the teachings of **Ishikawa** to incorporate wireless powering and data transmission into the elements of **Daniel**’s input device 100.

Further, claim 1 overcomes the rejection based on the Examiner’s allegation (page 3, lines 10-13 in the office action) that the claimed “finger-motion signal receiving unit” reads on **Daniel**’s external receiver 106 (Fig. 2). This is because the external receiver 106 is neither an

element constituting **Daniel's** input device 100 nor configured to be attached to a user's hand, while the "finger-motion signal receiving unit" is an element of the finger-motion detecting apparatus and configured to be attached to *a user's hand* as amended.

Applicants also submit that the Examiner is mistaken when alleging that **Daniel** teaches using a wireless power signal to operate the claimed "finger-motion detecting unit" (page 2, last three lines of the outstanding office action) citing **Daniel's** page 3, col. 1, paragraph 33, lines 18-24. This is because the above-cited part of **Daniel** suggests wireless communication only between the finger input device 100 and the external receiver 106 which is not located within the input device 100, while the claimed apparatus discloses provision of a wireless power signal between two elements (finger-motion signal transmitting unit and finger-motion signal receiving unit) both of which are configured to be attached to *a user's hand* as amended.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed apparatus should not be rendered obvious over **Daniel** in view of **Ishikawa**. Accordingly, corresponding method claim 11 should also be patentable over the references.

Claims 2-5, 7-10, 12-13, and 15-18 should be patentable at least due to their dependency on claim 1 or 11.

IV. New Claims

In order to more fully cover the present invention, Applicants add new claims 19 and 20 as attached based on paragraphs 27-28 which describe using an RFID chip for the control unit in claim 2.

Applicants respectfully request entrance and allowance of these new claims.

V. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060

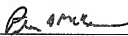
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: March 6, 2007


Peter A. McKenna
Registration No. 38,551